

VZCZCXRO1258
RR RUEHMA RUEHPA
DE RUEHOS #0480 3330549
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 280549Z NOV 08
FM AMCONSUL LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0339
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 9980
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEWMFD/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

UNCLAS LAGOS 000480

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAID](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [NI](#)

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: AMBASSADOR AWARDS SPECIAL SELF-HELP
PROJECTS

¶1. (U) Summary: On November 21, Ambassador Sanders signed agreements with seven non-governmental organizations to implement Mission's Special Self-Help grants for 2008. Grantees received a ceremonial check and participated in a training on administration of grant funds. The event was featured in at least three daily newspapers, including The Guardian, Vanguard, and Daily Independent, and on television and radio stations. End summary.

¶2. (U) On November 21, Ambassador Sanders hosted the Mission's 2008 Special Self-Help grantees at the American Guest Quarters in Lagos for a signing ceremony and training on grant administration. The Ambassador called the Special Self-Help program an exercise in democracy, and urged grantees to continue to work for improved quality of life in Nigeria. Investing in communities through the Special Self-Help program is just one of the ways the people of the United States, through the U.S. Mission, are working in partnership with Nigerians, the Ambassador said. She also gave grantees an overview of other USG partnership efforts to promote economic growth, just and democratic governance, investing in people, and peace and security.

¶3. (U) Representatives of each of the recipient organizations received a ceremonial check. The 2008 grantees include: the Daniel Igali Foundation in Bayelsa, Garram Children,s School in Plateau, Grace Hospital Ezianya in Imo, Health Awareness and Gender Advocacy Initiative in Lagos, Npang-Niyes community in Plateau, Ovim Community Initiative in Abia, and Women,s Board in Ogun. These grants will fund school books, classroom furniture, boreholes, and surgical equipment.

¶4. (U) The event was featured in at least three major newspapers, including The Guardian, Vanguard, and Daily Independent, and on television and radio stations.

¶5. (U) This cable has been coordinated with Embassy Abuja.
BLAIR